



**EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

**Brussels, 18 December 2012**

**EUCO 206/12**

**LIMITE**

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**DRAFT MINUTES**

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Subject : Meeting of the EUROPEAN COUNCIL  
held on 13 and 14 December 2012

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**1. Exchange of views with the President of the European Parliament**

The President of the European Parliament was heard by the European Council.

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

The European Council adopted its agenda (doc. EUCO 204/12).

**3. Economic policy**

The European Council agreed on the next steps for the completion of the Economic and Monetary Union. Notably, it achieved a political agreement to complete the banking union by setting up a single resolution mechanism with an appropriate and effective backstop, for which legislation will be submitted by the Commission in 2013 for adoption before mid-2014. It also launched work on the 2013 European Semester on the basis of the Commission's Annual Growth Survey.

**4. Other items**

The European Council decided to launch work on the further development of the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy in view of the European Council of December 2013. Furthermore, it adopted conclusions on Regional Strategies and endorsed the Council conclusions of 11 December on Enlargement. The European Council held a discussion and adopted conclusions on the current situation in Syria. The EC entered the statement reproduced in the annex into its minutes.

**5. Approval of the conclusions**

The European Council approved its conclusions, setting out the outcome of its discussions (doc. EUCO 205/12).

**6. Adoption of the minutes of the European Council meeting on 22-23 November 2012**

The European Council approved the minutes of its meeting held on 22-23 November 2012 (doc. EUCO 203/12).

**Statement to the minutes of the European Council on Schengen**

The European Council, in response to concerns raised by Romania and Bulgaria regarding the Commission report on Schengen governance and its references to measures which would contribute to the successful enlargement of the Schengen area, noted that when the Mixed Committee discussed this matter on 6/7 December, the Presidency recalled that it had reported on the implementation of those measures in October 2012 and stated that the progress made on their implementation was such as to enable the process to be considered as now completed. The European Council invites the Council to revert to this issue in March 2013.

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